

SECRET

PIC/D-114/60
5 October 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Development of "Automated"

1. As part of the PIC research and development program for FY 1961, it is proposed that action be initiated to contract for the development of an optical-electronic system known as "Automated" (Automatic Man-Made Target Detection). The objectives of this research program are as follows:

a. To determine the feasibility of using optical-electronic instrumentation to distinguish objects on photography above and below the normal range of human vision;

b. To develop instrumentation which will demonstrate the feasibility of machines distinguishing between man-made and natural features on photography; and

c. The ultimate development of equipment for locating specific shapes on photography as a means of target recognition.

2. A technical proposal has been received from [redacted] (copy attached) which outlines the program for the accomplishment of the first two objectives listed above. Although it is recognized that the prototype instrumentation developed under this program will have limited application to current practical problems, the demonstration of the feasibility of this concept, if successful, will have great significance in advancing the state-of-the-art of photographic exploitation systems. It is of particular interest to PIC in terms of a possible means of using automated methods for accomplishing one aspect of the photographic scanning process, thereby conserving the limited human resources at our disposal.

25X1
25X1

3. The estimated cost of the initial phase of this program is [redacted]. The Army has proposed to PIC that it act as principal agents for the project on a two-thirds Army one-third CIA share basis. Using this method, we would arrange for a transfer of [redacted] of PIC research and development funds to the Army which would undertake the contract negotiation and project monitoring. Although any resultant equipment would be the property of the Army, the instrumentation would be jointly used by PIC and the Army [redacted].

25X1

25X1

25X1

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: Development of "Automatad"

4. FIC has sufficient funds within its current operating research and development budget for FY 1961 to support this program without assistance from other CIA financial resources. Upon notification from us, the Army is prepared to immediately initiate contract negotiations for the development of Automatad.

5. Approval is requested to jointly participate with the Army for the development of Automatad on a one-third share basis at an approximate cost

25X1
25X1

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL

Director

Photographic Intelligence Center

Attachment:

Technical Proposal for Automatad

5 OCT 1960

APPROVED:

SIGNED

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

Date

Distribution: 0 & 1 - Addressee

1 - D/PIC

2 - AS/PIC

C/AS/PIC

(5 Oct 60)

25X1

NOTE: Funding for "Automatad" in FY 1961 will be taken from the "Research and Development of an Instrumented and Automated Photographic Interpretation Cell" project which was budgeted for [] in FY 61. This project is described on the first page of the "Schedule of External Research Projects" in the "Office Estimates, FY 1962, Photographic Intelligence Center". Ultimately the Automatad equipment is expected to provide data inputs to the PI Cell. 25X1

~~SECRET~~